

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 02687 151417 Z

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

ACDA-19 IO-13 RSR-01 /140 W
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R 151346 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1489

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CINCLANT

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMCONSUL CURACAO

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THE HAGUE 2687

FOR POLADS

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: MARR, NL, NA, VE

SUBJECT: PRIMIN ISA' S STATEMENT ON ANTILLES DEFENSE

REFS: (A) CARACAS 5038 (NOTAL)

(B) THE HAGUE A-312 OF 11/27/72

1. RESPONDING TO PRESS QUESTIONS JUNE 13, CHAIRMAN OF SECOND CHAMBER (LOWER HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT) COMMITTEE ON REALM AFFAIRS (VAN LIER) SAID THAT IF NETHS ANTILLES (NA) MINISTER- PRESIDENT ISA SAID GON HAD ADVISED NA TO LOOK TO VENEZUELA FOR DEFENSE AFTER INDEPENDENCE, ISA MADE SUCH STATEMENT ENTIRELY ON HIS OWN RESPONSIBILITY. VAN LIER IS QUOTED AS SAYING FURTHER THAT, " I NEVER MADE THE SUGGESTION IN OR OUTSIDE THE REALM COMMISSION (BODY SET UP IN 1971 TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE CHANGES IN REALM RELATIONSHIP, INCLUDING INDEPENDENCE FOR NA AND SURINAM) AND IT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IS NOT MY VIEW. NEITHER CAN I IMAGINE THAT OUR GOVT EVER MADE SUCH A SUGGESTION AT ANY PLACE. IF THEY DID, I WOULD HAVE KNOWN ABOUT IT."

2. COMMENT: WE CONSIDER IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT ANY RESPONSIBLE GON OFFICIAL MADE BLUNT STATEMENT ALONG LINES REPORTEDLY DESCRIBED BY ISA. WE WOULD NOT RULE OUT, HOWEVER, THAT A GON OFFICIAL MIGHT HAVE SUGGESTED THAT, IN CONSIDERING POST- INDEPENDENCE EXTERNAL DEFENSE NEEDS, NA SHOULD CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF SOME FORM OF COOPERATION WITH VENEZUELA. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT WILL BE RECALLED (REF B) THAT FORMER MFA DIRECTOR OF WESTERN HEMISPHERE AFFAIRS, IN OCTOBER 1972 CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF AND CONSUL GENERAL LOFTON FROM CURACAO, ALLUDED TO POSSIBILITY OF NA CONCLUDING SOME KIND OF BILATERAL DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH NEIGHBORING GOVTS.
TANGUY

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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